CONSTITUTION

AND

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND ENCAMPMENT,

OF THE

State of Pennsylvania;

Adopted April 12th 1854

PITTSBURGH.
PRINTED BY J. R. WELDIN, BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER, 63 WOOD ST.
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PROCEEDINGS.

AGREEABLY to previous notice, a Convention composed of Knights Templars of the State of Pennsylvania, and representing Pittsburgh Encampment No. 1, held at Pittsburgh, Pa. De Molay Encampment No.2, held at Washington, Pa. and St. Omer Encampment No. 3, held at Uniontown, Pa. all working under charters regularly granted by the General Grand Encampment of the United States of America, and subordinate thereto, assembled in Brownsville for the purpose of organizing a Grand Encampment for the State of Pennsylvania.

The Convention was organized by calling Sir J. B. Musser, of De Molay, Encampment No. 2, to the chair, and appointing Sir John Bierer, of St. Omer Encampment No. 3, Recorder.

On motion, a Committee was appointed to examine the credentials, and report such delegates as were duly appointed by the three Encampments here represented.

The Committee reported the following Sir Knights as legally entitled to seats in the Convention, as representatives of their respective Encampments, viz:

SIR W. W. WILSON, " WM. JOHNSON, " J. H. FISHELL,	Representing Pittsburgh Encampment No. 1, Pittsburgh, Pa.
SIR J. B. MUSSER, " GEO. PASSMORE, " JOHN GREGG,	Representing De Molay Encampment No. 2, Washington, Pa.
SIR JOHN BIEKER, " A. PATRICK, " WM. THORNDELL,	Representing St. Omer Encampment No. 3, Uniontown, Pa.

It being found that Sir Wm. Johnson, of Pittsburgh Encampment No. 1, was absent, on motion, Sir Alfred Creigh, Past Grand Commander of De Molay Encampment No. 2, was elected by the Convention to fill the vacancy.

The Convention being fully organized, the following Warrant, authorizing the formation of a State Grand Encampment, was read:

Warrant for forming a State Grand Encampment in Pennsylvania.

Office of the Grand Master of the General
Grand Encampment of the United States.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, February 18th, 1854.

To all true and courteous Sir Knights: Know ye, That, whereas, there are now established and existing three Commandaries in the State of Pennsylvania, holding their authority from, in, and working under our jurisdiction, to wit; Pittsburgh Encampment No. 1, De Molay Encampment No. 2, and St. Omer Encampment No. 3; —and, whereas, on behalf of those several encampments, it has been duly certified unto me, that they are desirous to form, hold and maintain, a Grand Encampment, in and for the said State of Pennsylvania, subordinate to the General Grand Encampment of the United States of America: Therefore, I, W. B. HUBBARD, General Grand Master of the aforesaid G. G. Encampment, being satisfied that the aforesaid request is reasonable and proper; by virtue of the high powers in me vested, and in accordance with the constitution and rules of our Order, Do, hereby, authorize and empower the aforesaid Encampments, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, in due order to meet at such time and place as they may agree upon, and FORM a State Grand Encampment, in and for the State of Pennsylvania, subordinate to our G. G. Encampment. The said State Grand Encampment, when so formed, making due return and report to me of all of their official doings and proceedings in the premises; and making a like return to our illustrious G. G. Recorder. And for all of their doings in accordance with the rules and usages of our Order, in forming such State Grand Encampment, this shall be their WARRANT.

Given under my hand and private seal, at the City of Columbus, the day and year above written.

W. B. HUBBARD, [SEAL.]

An encampment of Knights Templars was then opened in due form.

SIR J. B. MUSSER,	Grand	Commander,
" W. W. WILSON,	"	Generalissimo,
" GEO. PASSMORE,	"	Capt. General,
" ALFRED CREIGH.	"	Senior Warden,
" A. PATRICK,	"	Junior "
" JOHN BIERER,	"	Recorder,
" JOHN H. FISHELL,	"	Standard Bearer,
" JOHN GREGG,	"	Sword Bearer,
" W. L. LAFFERTY,	"	Warder.

On motion, a Committee of three, consisting of Sir Knights, W. W. Wilson. Geo. Passmore, and Wm. Thorndell, was appointed to draft and report a Constitution for the Grand Encampment of the State of Pennsylvania.

The following Constitution was reported and adopted, viz:

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Grand Encampment of the State of Pennsylvania,

ORGANIZED APRIL 12TH, 1854.

ARTICLE I. The Grand Encampment of Knights Templars, and the appendent orders for the State of Pennsylvania, subordinate to the General Grand Encampment for the United States of America, shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Prelate, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Recorder, Grand Treasurer, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder, all Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Generalissimos, and Grand Captain Generals of this State Grand Encampment. The Grand Commanders, Generalissimos, and Captain Generals, for the time being, of the Encampment over which they shall respectively preside, and all the Past Grand Commanders of such Encampments, so long as they shall continue in actual existence, and their said enumerated officers, or their proxies—which proxies shall be members of their own Emcampment, only—shall be the only members and voters of this State Grand Encampment.

ART. II. This State Grand Encampment shall meet annually to elect its officers, and transact business. The annual meetings shall be held in Pittsburgh, Pa. commencing on the evening of the second Tuesday in June. The elections shall be by ballot. The Grand Master, or in his absence the Deputy Grand Master, may call special meetings, and at such times and places, as the first four officers, or a majority of them, may direct. Every member of this Grand Encampment shall receive due notice of the time and place of such meetings.

ART. III. The Grand Master shall preside at all annual and special meetings, call special meetings when the interest of the Order requires it, attend the meetings of the General Grand Encampment, either in person or by proxy, visit each subordinate encampment, at least annually, examine into their proceedings, and inspect their work. He shall see that the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Encampment are properly observed. During the recess of the Grand Encampment, he may grant Special Warrants, under seal of this Grand Encampment, to a competent number of petitioners within this jurisdiction, empowering them to open and form a Council and Encampment for a certain specified time, not extending beyond the next annual meeting of this Grand Encampment. He shall report the same to the next meeting of the Grand Encampment, who may either continue or recall the same, or grant the petitioners a charter. No dispensation or charter shall be issued, except on the petition of nine Knights of the Order, and the recommendation of the chartered Encampment nearest to the place where the new Encampment is to be established. He shall, at each annual meeting, cause an exemplification of the work to be made in the presence of the Grand officers, and all other regular Sir Knights of the Order who may be in attendance. In case of the death, or absence of the Grand Master, the Duputy Grand Master, shall perform the duties of the Grand Master.

ART. IV. The Grand Recorder shall keep accurate records of all the proceedings of this body,shall keep a register of the officers and members of each subordinate Encampment, in good standing, as annually reported, and of all suspensions and expulsions that may be reported to him. He shall receive and pay over to the Treasurer all moneys and property of this Encampment, taking his receipt therefor, and keeping an account of the same. He shall, soon after the annual meeting, report to the Grand Recorders of other State Grand Encampments, a list of the Grand officers, and all such other matter as may be useful for the mutual information of the several Grand Encampments within these United States. He shall regularly transmit to the General Grand Record er, prior to the triennial meeting, a list of the present officers of this Grand Encampment, and a copy of such By-Laws and Regulations as may be adopted from year to year. Also, a list of the present officers of each subordinate Encampment under this jurisdiction—the number of initiations, suspensions, and expulsions, and the whole number in good and regular standing.

ART. V. The Treasurer shall receive and keep in charge, all the money and property of this Encampment. He shall pay all orders drawn by order of this Grand Encampment, signed by the Recorder, and countersigned by the Grand Master. He shall, at each annual meeting, or at any special meeting, when requested by the three first officers, present an accurate report of the State of the Treasury.

ART. VI. This State G. E. shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Councils of Knights of the Red Cross,

Knights Templars, and Knights of Malta, within its jurisdiction, assign their limits, and settle controversies between them; and shall have power, under the respective seals and signs manual of its principal Grand officers, to constitute new councils and encampments within this jurisdiction.

ART. VII. The M. E. Grand Master shall have the power and authority, during the recess of the Grand Encampment, to grant Letters of dispensation to a competent number of petitioners residing within this jurisdiction (possessing the Constitutional qualifications,) empowering them to open and form a Council and Encampment for a certain specified term of time, not extending beyond the next meeting of the Grand Encampment. Every subordinate Encampment working under dispensation from this State Grand Encampment, must upon their application for a charter, present their Record Book, containing their Constitution, By-Laws and proceedings.

ART. VIII. All constitutional petitions from a competent number of Sir Knights under this jurisdiction, desiring the establishment of a Council and Encampment, shall be accompanied by One Hundred Dollars, Ten Dollars of which shall be paid to the Grand Recorder for issuing the Warrant or Charter.

ART. IX. Every subordinate Encampment under this jurisdiction shall annually pay into the Treasury of this Grand Encampment the sum of two dollars for every initiation, and the further sum of one dollar annually for each member of said Subordinate Encampment—that this State Grand Encampment may be supported with propriety and respectability.

ART. X. Each Subordinate Encampment shall, after the present year, (which closes on the second Tuesday of June,) hold its annual election for officers at their stated meeting in April of each year, and shall make their returns to the Grand Recorder, within sufficient time for him to present his report to the State Grand Encampment. Each Subordinate Encampment neglecting to pay their dues or present their returns, within six months after having been notified thereof by the Grand Recorder, shall be notified by the M. E. Grand Master, that their Dispensation or Warrant is suspended; provided, that such suspension shall only continue in force until said dues are paid.

ART. XI. The Rules and Regulations which have been adopted by the General Grand Encampment for governing their proceedings, shall be adopted by this State Grand Encampment.

ART. XII. Immediately after the adoption of this Constitution, an election of the officers named therein shall take place, who shall serve until their successors are duly elected and installed.

ART. XIII. This Constitution shall not be altered or amended, except at an annual meeting, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. Notice of said alterations or amendments must be made in writing, and presented at a regular meeting preceeding the one at which the vote is to be passed.

On motion, the Encampment then proceeded to the election of officers, whereupon it was found that the following Sir Knights were duly elected, viz:

Sir W. W. Wilson	M. E. Grand Master,
" J. B. Musser,	E. Deputy Grand Master,
" John Bierer,	" Grand Generalissimo,
" And'w Patrick,	" " Captain General,
" Rev. Noble Gillespie,	" " Prelate,
" J. W. Hailman,	" " Senior Warden,
" J. R. Griffith,	" " Junior "
" Geo. Passmore,	" " Recorder,
" Wm. Thorndell,	" " Treasurer,
" Wm. Wolf,	" " Standard Bearer,
" Thos. Davage,	" " Sword "
" D. Zimmerman,	" " Warder.

The above elected officers were duly installed by M. E. Grand Master Sir W. W. Wilson.

Resolved, That the three Encampments here represented, and subordinate to this State Grand Encampment, shall take rank in the order they are here inserted and numbered, viz:

Pittsburgh	Encampment	No. 1, Pittsburgh,
De Molay	"	No. 2, Washington,
St. Omer	"	No. 3, Uniontown.

And until the annual meeting in June next, they shall be, and are hereby permitted to transact business, and work under a special Warrant from this State Grand Encampment, which Warrant shall be issued by the M. E. Grand Master, Sir W. W. Wilson. And at the annual meeting. they shall respectively petition the State Grand Encampment to grant them a Charter.

On motion, Resolved, That the Grand Recorder be authorized to procure the necessary blank books for the records, &c. of this Grand Encampment.

On motion, Resolved, That the Grand Master be authorized to procure a seal, also the proper jewels and regalia, also a plate for printing blank Charters for Subordinate Encampments within this jurisdiction, also, such other blanks &c. as may be necessary.

On motion, Resolved, That all bodies in this jurisdiction, claiming to belong to the orders of Knighthood, and who are not subordinate to this State Grand Encampment, or to the General Grand Encampment of the United States of America, are hereby declared irregular—agreeablyto the decisions of the General Grand Encampment, at its triennial meeting held in Boston, September, 1850.

Resolved, That five hundred copies of the Constitution and proceedings of this body, be printed for distribution.

On motion, Resolved, That this Grand Encampment be now closed, until the stated meeting on the second Tuesday of June next, unless sooner convened, agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution.

GEORGE PASSMORE, Recorder.